



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Jeffrey L. Clet

**SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
INSPECTION INCREASE**

DATE: May 24, 2006

Approved

/s/

Date

05/24/06

INFORMATION

During the recent Public Safety CSA Operating Budget Hearing, the Mayor raised the question of whether there had been an increase in the number of occupancies requiring complex hazardous materials inspections. The question was based on the following language included in the Proposed Budget document: "the number of complex hazardous material inspections would increase."

Currently, the existing Hazardous Materials Inspectors are assigned both Underground Storage Tank (UST) inspections and non-UST complex hazardous materials site inspections. Because of state requirements that the UST's be inspected more frequently, they receive priority in inspection schedules. As a result, there is reduced inspection capacity to do non-UST, complex hazardous material site inspections. The 2006-2007 Proposed Operating Budget includes the addition of one new Hazardous Materials Inspector for the UST inspection program. If approved, the new Hazardous Materials Inspector would focus on all of the UST sites. This would then free up existing inspectors to focus on and therefore "increase" the number of inspections conducted at existing complex hazardous materials sites.

The increase inspections refer to increasing the capacity of the current Hazardous Materials Inspectors to perform additional hazardous materials inspections at existing sites, by assigning the new Inspector to perform all of the UST inspections. The number of facilities has not seen a marked increase.

/s/

JEFFREY L. CLET
Fire Chief